

SKIN DISEASES RESEARCH CORE CENTERS

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National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

Application Receipt Date: April 22, 1992

BACKGROUND

The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) announces the availability of a Request for Applications (RFA) for research core centers in skin diseases. The Skin Diseases Research Core Centers (SDRCs) will provide the resources for a number of established, currently funded investigators, often from different disciplines, to adopt a multidisciplinary approach to common research problems in skin diseases and to ensure greater productivity through interaction among the investigators of individually funded research projects. New research directions are encouraged through a pilot and feasibility component.

RESEARCH GOALS AND SCOPE

Research in skin diseases is at a stage where broad advances can be effectively fostered by research core centers. Examples of advances include, but are not limited to:

- o stratum corneum: biochemistry, structure, function
- o epidermis: differentiation, keratinization, cellular constituents
- o dermal-epidermal junction: structure, functions, diseases
- o skin as an immunological organ
- o autoimmune skin diseases
- o dermis: structural components, diseases

The choice of research problems upon which the SDRC would focus is made by the Principal Investigator and collaborating currently funded investigators.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications may be submitted by domestic, nonprofit, public and private organizations, such as universities, colleges, hospitals, laboratories, units of State or local governments, and eligible agencies of the Federal government. Applications from minority individuals and women are encouraged.

MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

The SDRC (P30) is a mechanism for integrating, coordinating, and fostering the interdisciplinary cooperation of a group of established investigators conducting programs of active, high-quality research that relate to a common theme. The SDRC provides support for:

- o Core resources and facilities to be used by investigators of individually supported research projects in order to enhance and coordinate their activities. This support may include personnel, equipment, supplies, services, and facilities.
- o Limited funds for pilot and feasibility studies.
- o Program enrichment activities.

The NIAMS intends to fund two Skin Disease Research Core Centers in FY 92, subject to the availability of resources and the receipt of sufficiently meritorious applications, each with a yearly direct cost budget of up to \$400,000. The funding period is five years.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

For projects involving clinical research, NIH requires applicants to give special attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in study populations. If women or minorities are not included in the study populations for clinical studies, a specific justification for this exclusion must be provided. Applications without such documentation will not be accepted for review.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Applicants must contact the NIAMS staff for the detailed guidelines for the SDRC grant application. Applications must be submitted on Form PHS 398 (rev. 10/88), which is available in the institution's business office and from the Office of Grants Inquiries, Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health, Room 449, 5333 Westbard Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, telephone 301/496-7441.

All PHS and NIH grant policies governing research project grants apply to applications received in response to this RFA.

DEADLINES

Letter of Intent receipt date: February 17, 1992
Application receipt date: April 22, 1992
Ad Hoc Study Section review: June/July 1992
NIAMS Advisory Council Review: September 1992
Anticipated award date: September 1992

INQUIRIES

Further information on the program, including the guidelines for the Skin Diseases Research Core Centers, may be obtained from:

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AUTHORITY AND REGULATIONS

This program is described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.846. Grants are awarded under the authority of the Public Health Service Act, Section 301 (42 USC 241) and administered under PHS grants policies and Federal Regulations, most specifically at 42 CFR Part 52 and 45 CFR Part 74. This program is not subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372 or review by a Health Systems Agency.